In addition to above, special loan of Rs. 100 Crore Fund has been sanctioned to Kelvin Jute (Rs. 117 lakhs) and Naihati Jute (Rs. 50 lakhs).

All-Party Meeting on GNLF Problem in Calcutta

2061. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an all-party meeting was held in Calcutta regarding the solution of the GNLF problem;

(b) if so, the reaction of Central Government thereto;

(c) whether the Central Government would deal with the GNLF in the light of deliberations of the all-party meeting; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Improvement of the Standard of Raw Silk

2062. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to improve the quality of raw silk production in the country;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what steps Government have taken so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) to (c) In order to improve the quality of raw silk production in the country, Central Silk Board's research institutes are engaged in evolving better quality silkworm races and a number of bivoltine races have already been released in the field. Besides this the Board is encouraging bivoltine rearing practices and arranging supply of subsidised bivoltine silkworm seed.

Further to increase the production of quality raw silk the Central Silk Board in collaboration with State Governments have formulated a National Sericulture Project for implementation with World Bank assistance. A Pre-Appraisal Mission from the Bank is presently in India to discuss the details of this project.

Completion of Medium and Major Irrigation Projects

2063. SHRI NARAYAN KAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the medium and major irrigation projects completed during the last three years in different States, State-wise;

(b) the names of the medium and major irrigation projects which are lagging behind the scheduled time of completion, State-wise?

(c) the reasons for the delay, projectwise and State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) The aspect of completion of projects is assessed at the end of each Plan. As per the information received from States, most of the 181 major and 433 medium ongoing projects are running behind schedule.

(c) The main reasons for delay include increase in the number of projects resulting in thin spreading of limited resources; escalation in the costs of labour, material, equipment and land; inadequate investigations at the project formulation stage resulting in under estimation of quantities